

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 05531 221726Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 EB-08 FCC-01 INR-07

NSAE-00 OC-06 USIA-06 COME-00 BIB-01 DODE-00 L-03

PRS-01 EURE-00 /085 W

-----221847Z 073928 /43

P R 221521Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6596

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 5531

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETEL, NR, UR, US

SUBJECT: APPROACH TO MFA ON SOVIET RADIO INTERFERENCE

REF: STATE 90201 (NOTAL)

1. E/C COUNSELOR CALLED ON FEDOSEYEV, DEPUTY CHIEF OF USA DIVISION, MFA, ON APRIL 22 TO RAISE ISSUE OF CONTINUED DISRUPTIVE SOVIET RADIO EMISSIONS.

2. COUNSELOR REVIEWED HISTORY OF PROBLEM, RECALLING JULY 1976 TRANSMISSIONS, FOUR FCC APPROACHES TO USSR MINISTRY OF POST AND COMMUNICATIONS AFTER AUGUST 1976, SOVIET RESPONSE OF DECEMBER 3 WHICH INDICATED ABATEMENT OF SIGNAL, OUR NOTE OF DECEMBER 20 TO MFA WHEN THIS DID NOT OCCUR, THE INADEQUATE SOVIET RESPONSE OF JANUARY 7 AND THE MOST RECENT DISCUSSION WITH FEDOSEYEV ON FEBRUARY 4 WHEN HE ACKNOWLEDGED MATTER WAS SERIOUS AND PROMISED TO LOOK INTO IT PROMPTLY. COUNSELOR STRESSED THIS WAS NOT AN ISSUE ONLY BETWEEN OUR
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 05531 221726Z

RESPECTIVE MINISTRIES OF COMMUNICATIONS BUT ONE WHICH SERIOUSLY INVOLVED THE SAFETY OF HUMAN LIFE. HE POINTED OUT THAT MAIN US INTEREST, WHICH SOVIET GOVERNMENT PRESUMABLY SHARED, WAS THAT SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA OR AIR SHOULD NOT BE JEOPARDIZED BY THESE DISRUPTIVE EMISSIONS. THE SIGNALS HAMPER RESCUE OPERATIONS. WHILE IT IS TRUE THAT THERE HAS YET BEEN NO TRAGEDY WHICH COULD BE ASSOCIATED

WITH THE DISRUPTIVE SOVIET FREQUENCY, THIS COULD OBVIOUSLY OCCUR AT ANY TIME. COUNSELOR SAID HE WAS CERTAIN SOVIET GOVERNMENT WOULD WISH NEITHER TO BE THE CAUSE OF SUCH AN EVENT NOR TO SEE ISSUE THEREBY RAISED TO NOTORIETY. IN SUMMATION, COUNSELOR SAID THAT IN VIEW OF ALL THE FOREGOING, INCLUDING THE SOVIET RECOGNITION OF THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE ISSUE, THE USG HOPED AND EXPECTED THAT THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT WOULD PROMPTLY PUT A STOP TO THE DISRUPTIONS.

3. IN RESPONSE FEDOSEYEV STATED THAT HE HAD INDEED LOOKED INTO THE ISSUE, AS HE HAD PROMISED TO DO, AND REITERATED THAT IT WAS VERY SERIOUS. HE HAD BEEN INFORMED BY HIS AUTHORITIES, HOWEVER, THAT THERE WAS AN INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION. US AUTHORITIES COULD GET IN TOUCH WITH THE ITU ON THE SUBJECT IF THEY DESIRED.

4. COUNSELOR STATED THAT WE WERE WELL AWARE OF EXISTENCE OF ITU AND RECALLED THAT SOVIET MINISTRY OF POST AND COMMUNICATIONS MESSAGE OF DECEMBER 3, 1976, HAD SUBSEQUENTLY BEEN PASSED TO THE ITU ON DECEMBER 16, AS STATED IN THE SOVIET NOTE OF JANUARY 7, 1977. COUNSELOR SAID HE WAS SURE THAT HIS OWN AUTHORITIES WOULD NOT REGARD THIS AS A SATISFACTORY RESPONSE. IT WAS WITHIN THE POWER OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT, NOT THE ITU, TO EXTINGUISH TRANSMISSIONS. ALL IT HAD TO DO WAS PUT A STOP TO THEM.

5. FEDOSEYEV SAID, SOMEWHAT WEARILY, THAT HE WOULD OF COURSE REPORT WHAT COUNSELOR HAD SAID. HOWEVER, HE HAD TO SAY THAT CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 05531 221726Z

HIS AUTHORITIES HAD INSTRUCTED HIM TO MENTION THE ITU.

6. IN CONCLUSION COUNSELOR REITERATED HOPE THAT SOVIET GOVERNMENT WOULD ACT PROMPTLY TO TERMINATE THE DISRUPTIONS, SINCE THIS WOULD BE THE SIMPLE SOLUTION, OBTAINING THE POSSIBILITY OF DEBATING THIS ISSUE IN AN INTERNATIONAL FORUM.

7. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE PUT THIS CASE ABOUT AS STRONGLY AS POSSIBLE TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WHICH CAN ENTERTAIN NO DOUBTS ABOUT THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH WE VIEW THE MATTER. IF THE DISRUPTIONS DO NOT CEASE, THE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF ASSOCIATING ITSELF WITH OTHER INTERESTED COUNTRIES AND RAISING THE SUBJECT IN THE ITU, IF THIS IS THE APPROPRIATE INTERNATIONAL FORUM. IN THIS CONTEXT WE NOTE PESSIMISTIC VIEW EXPRESSED BY NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL TO EMBASSY OSLO (OSLO 6394) THAT SANCTIONS IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AREA ARE NONEXISTENT. IF THIS BE THE CASE, AND IF THE INTERFERENCE IS OF A MILITARY NATURE, THERE IS PROBABLY LITTLE

MORE WHICH WE WILL BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH HERE BY PROTESTS.

TOON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, RADIO FREQUENCY INTERFERENCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MOSCOW05531
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770140-1142
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770429/aaaaayra.tel
Line Count: 118
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f01e8ea0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 90201
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2722622
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: APPROACH TO MFA ON SOVIET RADIO INTERFERENCE
TAGS: ETEL, NR, UR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f01e8ea0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009